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Executive Secretary
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August 12, 1982

The Honorable William J. Casey Central Intelligence Agency Director Central Intelligence Washington, D. C. 20505

Subject: Proposed External Research on Soviet Deception and Disinformation

Dear Mr. Casey:

I belong to a very small, but hopefully expanding, group of national security analysts who are concerned about the impact of Soviet deception and disinformation on U.S. national security plans, policies, and programs.

As pointed out a few years ago in a CIA study, just the tip of this Soviet effort runs in excess of \$3 billion dollars per year. And, rather than organize to counter this effort, the United States seems to have taken a reverse direction by dismantling or tying down in the mid-1970's most of its capabilities to deal with this dimension of the threat.

Fortunately, concern over this Soviet activity has grown in the past year, perhaps largely as a result of such publications as the CIA study Covert Actions, Moss and de Borchgraves' The Spike, and Tyson's Target America. I now understand that some actions to counteract the Soviet efforts are being developed in several agencies, including your own organization. I believe it is imperative that such efforts be built as fast as possible and in the most substantial manner. While the tendency is only to build internal efforts, I believe there is a very substantial contribution that can be made by an external research group and that such an effort could beneficially complement the internal efforts.

One approach to an external research effort—both need and direction—is contained in the attached informal proposal. Also attached is a brief resume on my background. If there is any significant possibility of building an external task group to help in this problem area, either along the lines indicated or otherwise, I would appreciate the opportunity to meet with the appropriate people.

Sincerely,

Jøseph D. Douglass, Jr.

Scientific Advisor

JDD:mcs

Attachment

2-140

Corporate Office
7650 Convoy Court • P.O. Box 80817
- San Diego, California 92138
714 / 565-7171 • Telex: 69-5412

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